

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SINGAP 04402 140826Z

14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-14 SSO-00 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 EB-11

OMB-01 AID-20 EUR-25 DRC-01 /203 W

----- 119955

R 140710Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9623

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 4402

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SN, ENRG

SUBJ: LEE ON MID-EAST PEACE

REF: A. SINGAPORE 4189; B. SINGAPORE 4328

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF EXCHANGE OF MESSAGE BETWEEN
ALGERIAN PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE AND LEE KUAN YEW
RECEIVED FROM PRIME MINISTER'S PRESS OFFICE. BOUMEDIENE'S
MESSAGE WHICH TRANSMITTED TO GOS THROUGH SINGAPORE HIGH
COMMISSION NEW DELHI AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE THE TIME
HAS CERTAINLY COME FOR THE ENTIRE WORLD TO ASSUME ITS
RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS THE QUESTION OF THE MIDDLE
EAST. THE REPEATED AGGRESSIONS OF ISRAEL AGAINST
THE ARAB STATES HAE BECOME UNBEARABLE. THE NON-
ALIGNED COUNTRIES IN PARTICULAR WHICH HAVE NOT MISSED
THE OPPORTUNITY DURING THE 4TH SUMMIT TO EXPRESS
THEIR SOLIDARITY TOWARDS THE ARAB PEOPLES WILL NOT
FAIL TO BRING THIS TIME THEIR CONSISTENT POLITITCAL,
MORAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT. IN THIS TRAGEDY OF THE
MIDDLE EAST, WHERE THE DESTINY OF THE ARAB AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SINGAP 04402 140826Z

AFRICAN WORLD IS AT STAKE, WE COULD NOT BE A MERE

SPECTATOR AND EACH OF US IS DIRECTLY CONCERNED. WE ARE ALL A PARTY TO IT AS IT CONCERNS OF DEFENCE, JUSTICE, LIBERTY AND PEACE. END QUOTE.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LEE' REPLY: QUTE: MAY I THANK YOUR EXCELLENCY FOR THE MESSAGE TRANSMITTED TO ME THROUGH OUR EMBASSY IN NEW DELHI ON 12 OCTOBER. YOUR EXCELLENCY IS AWARE OF SINGAPORE'S ESTABLISHED POLICY OF FRIENDSHIP TOWARDS THE ARAB PEOPLES. PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT THERE HAS NOT BEEN NOR WILL THERE BE ANY DEPARTURE FROM THIS. SINGAPORE HAS CONTINUOUSLY OPPOSED THE ALTERATION OF BOUNDARIES BY THE USE OF FORCE AND MAINTAINS THE INADMISSIBILITY OF ACQUISITION OF TERRITORIES BY SUCH MEANS. THIS WE HAVE REITERATED SEVERAL TIMES SINCE THE JUNE 1967 WAR. IN THE CIRCUMSTATNCES, I APPRECIATE THAT IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE EVERY EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO SEE THAT JUSTICE IS DONE TO THE PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST, INCLUDING THE PALESTININIANS. THIS MUST BE DONE BY IMPLEMENTING UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242 OF 1967 IN ALL ITS PARTS. MAY I ASSURE YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT SINGAPORE WILL NOT HESITATE TO DEMONSTRATE ITS SUPPORT FOR ALL EFFORTS TOWARDS BRINGINGABOUT JUSTICE, LIBERTY AND PEACE TO THE MIDDLE EAST, IN THE UN AND IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. END QUOTE.

3. REUTERS REPORT DATELINED ALGIERS CONTAINING INACCURATE BUT BASICALLY SIMILAR TEXT OF LEE'S MESSAGE RECEIVED FRONT PAGE TREATMENT AFTERNOON NEW NATION NOVEMBER 13. THIS REPORT APPARENTLY PROMPTED PRIME MININSTER'S OFFICE TO RELEASE FULL TEXT BOTH MESSAGES WHICH WERE SUBSEQUENTLY FRONT PAGED NOVEMBER 14 IN STRAITS TIMES. TEXT OF LEE'S REPLY RELEASED TO PRESS WAS UNDATED, BUT PRIME MINISTER'S PRESS OFFICE ADVISED REPLY NOT SENT UNTIL NOVEMBER 9.

4. COMMENT: GIVEN SINGAPORE'S NEAR TOTAL DEPENDENCE ON MIDDLE EASTERN OIL, LEE IS PROBABLY CONCERNED THAT ARAB COUNTRIES ALMOST CERTAINLY HOLD HOSTILE ATTICONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SINGAP 04402 140826Z

TUDE TOWARDS SINGAPORE'S FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, PRESENCE IN SINGAPORE OF ISRAELI MILITARY ADVISORS AND GOS PURCHASES OF ISRAELI MILITARY EQUIPMENT. FURTHERMORE, LEE MUST HAVE NOTED NUMEROUS PRESS REPORTS THAT SOME ARAB COUNTRIES HAVE ENDEAVORED TO PRESSURE JAPAN TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL IF GOJ WISHES TO RECEIVE PRIORITY FOR OIL DELIVERIES. CONSEQUENTLY, HE MAY WELL FEAR THAT ARAB COUNTRIES

MAY EXERT SIMILAR PRESSURES AGAINST GOS.

5. ALTHOUGH LEE'S MESSAGE IS PHRASED IN MODERATE AND CIRCUMSPECT TERMS, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT IT STRESSES SINGAPORE'S "POLICY OF FRIENDSHIP TOWARD THE ARAB PEOPLES." IT ALSO FAILS TO REFER TO NECESSITY OF DEFINING "SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BOUNDARIES" FOR ISRAEL WHICH LEE HAD MENTIONED IN HIS REMARKS ON OCTOBER 30 TO THE IFPCW. BY MAKING THIS PUBLIC SHIFT IN EMPHASIS LEE APPARENTLY HOPES TO IMPROVE SINGAPORE'S IMAGE IN ARAB EYES.

GRANT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WAR, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SINGAP04402
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731134/aaaaayub.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. SINGAPORE 4189; B. SINGAPORE 4328
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Nov-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <26-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEE ON MID-EAST PEACE
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, SN, XF, (LEE KUAN YEW)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005